

Maria Assumpta Parish Bulletin

MARIA ASSUMPTA CATHOLIC CHURCH
198 Beach Haven Road, Auckland 0626
www.beachhavencatholic.org.nz

SUNDAY MASS: 8am, 10am
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 10am-12pm
WEEKDAY MASS: 9am - Tuesday to Saturday

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:
Contact Parish priest
BAPTISM PREPARATION: Contact Office

Parish Priest: Fr Aleki Piula
Email: alekipiula@yahoo.co.nz
Presbytery Phone: 483 7919

Parish Secretary: Marc Theron
Email: secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz
Parish Office: 09-483-5919

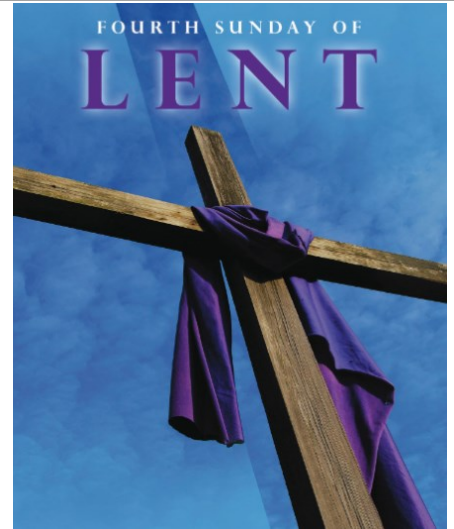
PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Thurs, Friday 9am-1pm

4th Sunday of LENT
19 March February 2023

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13
Psalm: 23
Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel: John 9:1-41

Reflection by Fr Aleki Piula

Christ, the light of the World



Today's Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as 'Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday expressing the Church's joy in anticipation of the Resurrection of our Lord. We walk in the darkness of the world, often assailed by fear and misgiving, but Christ, the Shepherd-king, the second David, light up our way for us and cures our congenial blindness as he leads us to his kingdom. We rejoice in the salvation the Lord is giving us as we continue entering into the discipline of Lent. Today is name for the entrance antiphon which sings: 'Rejoice, Jerusalem!' (Laetare means 'rejoice'). There is a frightening amount of darkness in the world today, but today's Gospel contains the wonderful words of Christ: 'I am the light of the world'. Christ is indeed the light of the world and of our lives. Let us reflect for a moment on how much we need his light for our own lives and for the world. So, let us turn to Christ whose light is shining on us now.

In the first reading first book of Samuel saying, God chose David, the least of Jesse's sons, to be king of Israel. While people look at appearances, God looks at the heart. In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel. Many centuries later, Jesus too will call himself a shepherd, demonstrating that his mission is grounded in tenderness and compassion.

Psalm 23 is the shepherd's light, and is used to accompany the first reading, is the much-loved shepherd psalm. One task of the shepherd is to be the eye of protection for the flock and that is the task of the shepherd and of Jesus himself is to take care of the whole flock, the entire people of God.

The Lord is portrayed as one who tenderly cares for the sheep, feeding and protecting them all the days of their lives. In the second reading, Saint Paul tells the Ephesians that now that Christ has enlightened them, they must adopt a lifestyle in keeping with their new state.

In today's Gospel, Jesus, the light of the world, not only give sight to the physically blind, but the light of faith to the spiritually blind. The Gospel story is a lesson on growth in faith. The climax of the story comes when the man makes a profession of faith in Jesus, 'Look, I believes'.

**If you're sick,
please stay HOME**

**Welcome - Malo e lelei - Bula Vinaka - Talofa lava - Mabuhay - Bienvenue
Nei hou ma - Anneunghaseyo - Ayu Bowan - Willkommen - Welkom
Haere mai! Nau mai! Whakatau mai!**

His journey from blindness to sight symbolises the journey from unbelief to faith, which is a journey from darkness to light. Saint Paul says, 'Once you were in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Sadly, while the blind man opens more and more to the light, the Pharisees, who are physically sighted, become more and more spiritually blind. In giving sight to a blind man Jesus shows that he is 'the light of the world'. When we, like the newly enlightened man of the Gospel, believe in Jesus as our Lord, our lives are in constant contact with the source of true light. Faith enables a person to travel through life with expanded vision, seeing with the eyes of God. He guides us along the right path.

Let us ask the Lord to open our eyes to see and to grow continually gaining clearer vision about God, ourselves and others. So, our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should help to heal our spiritual blindness so that we can look at others, as the children of God, and love them as our own brothers and sisters saved by the death and Resurrection of Christ.

Have a blessed Sunday, God bless. Fr. Aleki



Sacramental Programme

Starting after Easter so **PLEASE** register online here



<https://bit.ly/3KzAYG2>



Petition to save our CAB's

Auckland Council are proposing to cut or possibly remove funding from all 32 Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) branches in Auckland. This will result in the closure of all 32 CABs in Auckland.

Some of our congregation have utilised the services of the CABs recently to seek advice on anything from consumer rights to law and government (e.g. tenancy, employment rights, safety, housing, education, immigration etc)



Please sign the Save Auckland CABs online petition <https://our.actionstation.org.nz/petitions/save-auckland-cabs>

You are also most welcome to also drop by at your local CAB to sign the paper version of the petition in person.

Announcements :

- **PLEASE register with Our Parish online OR complete the paper form at the back of the church and pop it into the office letterbox.**
- Stations of the cross - Friday at 7 pm
- Altar servers will have their training at 6pm before the stations of the Cross on Friday
- Sacramental programme - starting after the Easter season so PLEASE register online and contact Stephanie Martin after 10 am Mass.
- Parish reconciliation 30 March at 7 pm.
- There will a bus providing for the ecumenical walk for the stations of the cross at 10am on Good Friday, and we are the second stations of the day.
- Parish **working Bee** will be held on 25th Saturday next week in the morning. You can bring any tools to help to weed our garden and clear our church for our holy week.



Easter Timetable

- Palm Sunday (02 Apr) - 8 am & 10 am
- Holy Thursday - Lord's Supper (06 Apr) - 7 pm
- Good Friday - Stations of the Cross 8 am in the car park and Ecumenical walk at 10 am
- Good Friday - Lord's Passion (07 Apr) - 3 pm
- Easter Vigil - Holy Saturday (08 Apr) - 7 pm
- Easter Sunday (09 April '23) - 9 am
- **Music Meeting** - 10:30 am Tuesday after first Sunday every month (07 March)
- **Finance Committee** - 7 pm Tues (14 Mar)
- **Liturgy Committee** - 7 pm Wed (08 Mar)
- **PPC Meeting** - 7 pm Wed (15 Mar)
- **Liturgy of the Word** - every Monday - 9 am, with Communion.
- **Multicultural Mass** - 10 am (26 Mar)
- **Youth Mass** - 10 am (23 April)
- **Maori Mass** - 10 am (30 April)
- **Filipino Mass:** 1st Sunday - 4 pm (02 Apr)
- **Samoa Mass:** 2nd Sunday - 11:45 am
- **Tongan Mass:** 3rd Sunday - 1 pm (TODAY)

Lent Appeal 2023



AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Lenten Giving Envelope Packs are at Church door today. You can use the weekly donation envelopes or use a single donation envelope.

The donations can be placed in the offertory basket or posted direct to Caritas. If you want a receipt for tax purposes please put your name and address in the envelope.

<https://www.caritas.org.nz/lent>



Maori Proverb:

"He mahi takitini tāku mahi, ehara i te mahi takitahi."
"My efforts were the efforts of many, not just of one."

"He toa takitini tāku toa, ehara i te toa takitahi."
"My courage was the courage of many, not just of one."





PLEASE Register with us

THANK YOU to the first **100** Families who have already registered, fantastic.

Registration link is below:
<https://bit.ly/3GfSsBX>



No Internet Access? Please come into the office so we can assist you in completing this registration online or grab a form at the back of the Church.

Bishop Steve and the ACFL Board wish to assist preference families who genuinely need support with Attendance Dues through the ACFL Financial Assistance Scheme.

Please contact Carol Krebs on (09) 360 3069 or pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz if you need assistance in paying the attendance dues.

Training & Formation for Lay Leaders of Liturgical Prayer

This training is being offered by the Liturgy Centre from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, to prepare people to lead the Liturgy of the Word in the absence of a priest. It will take place over five Saturdays.

Day 1: 18th March | Day 2: 29th April | Day 3: 27th May | Day 4: 24th June | Day 5: 29th July Register: <https://bit.ly/3YhnEcD>



De Paul House Transitional housing and family support.

Food Bank Depleted! Can you help? Our shelves are looking bare in most products.

With disasters now coming in twos the need for food and bed clothing, in particular new pillows and single duvets, has doubled. Foodstuffs – med-large tins of tuna/salmon/tinned corned beef, pasta sauces, meal sauces, tea, coffee, milo, long-life milk, biscuits, crackers, muesli bars, cereal, rice, jam, honey, peanut butter.

Personal care – shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, toilet paper.

Household – laundry and dishwashing liquid, spray and wipe. Donations can be **dropped off at De Paul House Office** at 92-96 Onewa Rd, Northcote.

Contact reception@depaulhouse.org.nz 09-480-5959

PLEASE NOTE:

Items left in the baskets at the back of the church do not go to De Paul House and that the food for St Vincent de Paul needs to be **non-perishable**.



The Maria Assumpta conference of St Vincent de Paul thanks parishioners for your generous and ongoing support.

The Society of Saint Vincent De Paul has started a national appeal to help the victims of the recent cyclones that have caused devastating loss in the largest and most widespread weather event ever to impact New Zealand. The Society, through its conferences in the affected areas, will provide financial help, and food, clothing, furniture and advocacy assistance to those affected for as long as the recovery takes. Donations will be accepted at church or you can make a donation online to account number 12-3035-0514670-000. In the particulars please write Flood Appeal and under Reference please enter your initials and surname.

All donations over \$5 will be issued a receipt later in April for tax refund purposes.

Thank you for your help

STATIONS OF THE Cross

We retell this story of Jesus' self-giving love in order to open our hearts to what is already given to us: mercy.

Tuesday 4 April, 7pm
St Joseph's Church, Takapuna
All welcome

Bishop Steve - emergency flood relief Fund

My Caring Foundation is accepting donations to help our partner agencies deliver vital help to so many. You can make an online donation today so that assistance can get to families quickly.

If you are able to make a donation, you can do this through the Caring Foundation's donation page:

<https://caringfoundation.org.nz/donate-3/>

or online to the Foundation's bank account:

BNZ 02-0100-0242648-00 (Please use your surname and initials as reference, and Cyclone as a particular.)

Your donation will be used for food, shelter, clothes and other essential supplies and support services.

More Flood assistance can be found here:

<https://www.aucklandemergencymanagement.org.nz/auckland-emergency-management/support-is-available>

Next Week Ministries	8:00am Mass	10:00am Mass
Welcome/Notices	Pat Lythe	Anthony Davids
Ministers Of The Word	Aurora Munoz Beate Matthies	Multicultural
Ministers of Communion	Liz Anthony	Maria Taulofo'i
Prayers Of The Faithful	Litara Asiasiau	Multicultural
Computer	Michael Coats	Filomena Filipo
Musicians	Filomena Filipo	Ausage Fa'aoso Setu
Counters	Team D	Chris & Stephen

Next Week READINGS

26 March 2023

First Reading:
Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalm: 130

Second Reading:
Romans 8:8-11

Gospel:
John 11:1-45

SPECIAL MASSES

- Filipino Mass:** 1st Sunday of month - 4 pm
Samoa Mass: 2nd Sunday of month - 11:45 am
Tongan Mass: 3rd Sunday of the month - 1 pm
Multicultural Mass: 4th Sunday of every other month.- 10 am
Youth Mass: 4th Sunday of every other month. - 10 am
Maori Mass: 5th Sunday of month - 10 am
Note: Singing Practice: Saturdays after morning Mass.
Monday: 9.00 am Liturgy of the Word



DEVOTIONS

Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist: To be advised

PARISH ACTIVITIES

- Youth Group:** To be advised
NSSCC Fono: 4th Sunday of the month, 11.30am – 3.00pm
Enua Ola Group - Zumba : Every Tuesday, 6pm in hall. To be advised
Multicultural group meeting: To be advised
Finance Committee meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm.
Liturgy Committee meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 pm.
Parish Pastoral Council meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the month 7.00pm.



NEWSLETTER:

Do you want the Newsletter via email ?

PLEASE register with the church online here:

<https://beachhavencatholic.org.nz/parishioner-registration/>



CDA Connect

Are you wanting to know what is happening in the diocese? CDA Connect is a monthly newsletter concerning happenings in the diocese.



HALL HIRE

All bookings can be made **ONLINE**

Should be made ONLINE at:

<https://beachhavencatholic.org.nz/venue-hall-hire-2/>

Parishioners: Hall Hire fee: \$150 Bond and \$25.00 per hour.

NON Parishioners: Hall Hire: \$350 Bond.

(Hall hire is for all time Hall is used - decorating included)



CHURCH MAINTENANCE

Please inform the parish office of any damages that need repairing on parish premises.

If you can assist with maintenance please contact, Marc Theron
Ph: 021-119-1397 or email: secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz

NOTICES FOR PARISH BULLETIN

These should be received by Thursday every week. Notices are approved by the Parish Priest and will be placed if there is room.

Email the wording to: secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz